AMENDMENTS

Please amend the present application as follows:

In the Specification

The following is a marked-up version of the specification with the language that is underlined ("___") being added and the language that contains strikethrough ("~~___~~") being deleted:

For the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 8:

It is desirable for television set-top terminals (STTs) to be able to store a large number of video presentations (e.g., movies) in digital form. One way to enable ~~an~~ a STT to store a large number of digital video presentations is to include in the STT a storage device having a storage capacity sufficient to accommodate a large number of video presentations. This approach, however, may not be cost effective and/or may not enable the storage of as many video presentations as desired by a user. Therefore, there exists a need for systems and methods for addressing this and/or other problems associated with the storage of digital video presentations.

For the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 25:

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of ~~an~~ a STT in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention.

For the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 27:

FIGS. 3A-3D are block diagrams illustrating examples of data flows in ~~an~~ a STT.

For the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 23:

The accompanying drawings include FIGS. 1-7: FIG. 1 provides an example, among others, of a subscriber television system in which adaptive video compression may be implemented; FIG. 2 provides an example, among others, of ~~an~~ a STT that may be used to perform adaptive video compression; FIGS. 3A-3D are block diagrams illustrating examples, among others, of data flow pursuant to adaptive video compression in ~~an~~ a STT; and FIGS. 4-7 are flow charts depicting methods, among others, that can be used in implementing adaptive video compression in ~~an~~ a STT. Note, however, that the invention may be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein. Furthermore, all examples given herein are intended to be non-limiting, among others, and are provided in order to help clarify the invention.

For the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 33:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram depicting a non-limiting example of a subscriber television system 100. Note that the subscriber television system 100 shown in FIG. 1 is merely illustrative and should not be construed as implying any limitations upon the scope of the preferred embodiments of the invention. In this example, the subscriber television system 100 includes a headend 110 and ~~an~~ a STT 200 that are coupled via a network 130. The STT 200 is typically situated at a user's residence or place of business and may be a stand-alone unit or integrated into another device such as, for example, the television 140.

For the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 19:

FIG. 2 is a block diagram illustrating selected components of ~~an~~ a STT 200 in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. Note that the STT 200 shown

Apr. 7, 2005 in FIG. 2 is merely illustrative and should not be construed as implying any limitations upon the scope of the preferred embodiments of the invention. For example, in another embodiment, the STT 200 may have fewer, additional, and/or different components than illustrated in FIG. 2.

For the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 3:

FIG. 3A is a simplified block diagram depicting data flow in ~~an~~ a STT 200, according to one embodiment of the invention. According to the example illustrated in FIG. 3A, a compressed video stream segment 311 is retrieved from the storage device 263 and is forwarded to a decoder 223, where it is decoded. The decompressed (i.e., reconstructed) segment 312 output by the decoder 223 is then forwarded to an encoder 217 where it is compressed.

For the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 32:

FIGS. 3B-3D depict non-limiting examples, among others, of transcoding schemes that may be implemented via ~~an~~ a STT 200. According to the example illustrated in FIG. 3B, a first compressed stream 301 having a first compressed format (e.g., MPEG-2), is retrieved from the storage device 263 (in an STT 200-1) and is forwarded to an MPEG-2 decoder 223-1, where it is decoded (i.e., decompressed). The first compressed stream 301 is retrieved from some predetermined beginning point, such as the start of a recorded program or a point where a prior transcoding operation had ended. Segments comprising consecutive pictures in the first compressed stream 301 are accessed consecutively and provided to the decoder 223-1. One or more consecutive segments of compressed pictures may be accessed and converted from a first video compression format to a second video compression format in the STT 200-1.

For the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 12:

FIG. 3C is a simplified block diagram depicting data flow in ~~an~~ a STT 200-2, according to one embodiment of the invention. According to the example illustrated in FIG. 3C, H.264 data 321 are retrieved from the storage device 263 and are forwarded to an H.264 decoder 223-2, where they are decoded. The decompressed data 322 output by the H.264 decoder 223-2 is forwarded to an H.264 encoder 217-2 where they are compressed in an H.264 format. The H.264 data 323 output by the H.264 encoder 217-2, which has a lower bit-rate than the H.264 data 321, is then forwarded to the storage device 263 for storage. Since the bit-rate of the H.264 data 323 is lower than the bit-rate of the H.264 data 321, converting the H.264 data 321 to H.264 data 323 reduces the amount of storage capacity needed for storing a corresponding video stream. Note that in an alternative embodiment, the functionality performed by the H.264 decoder 223-2 and by the H.264 encoder 217-2 can be performed by a single module. The transcoding operation depicted in FIG. 3C may be a multiple phase transcoding operation or it may be a transcoding operation for converting a larger picture size, such as HD, to a smaller picture size such as SD.

For the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 26:

FIG. 3D is a simplified block diagram depicting data flow in ~~an~~ a STT 200-3, according to one embodiment of the invention. According to the example illustrated in FIG. 3D, MPEG-2 data 331 is retrieved from the storage device 263 and are forwarded to an MPEG-2 decoder 223-1, where they are decoded. The decompressed data 332 output by the MPEG-2 decoder 223-1 is forwarded to an MPEG-2 encoder 217-1 where they are compressed in an MPEG-2 format. The MPEG-2 data 333 output by the MPEG-2

encoder 217-1, which has a lower-bit rate than the MPEG-2 data 331, is then forwarded to the storage device 263 for storage. Since the bit-rate of the MPEG-2 data 333 is lower than the bit-rate of the MPEG-2 data 331, converting the MPEG-2 data 331 to the MPEG-2 data 333 reduces the amount of storage capacity needed for storing a corresponding video stream. Note that in an alternative embodiment, the functionality performed by the MPEG-2 decoder 223-1 and by the MPEG-2 encoder 217-1 can be performed by a single module.

For the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 8:

FIG. 6 is a flow chart depicting a non-limiting example of a method 600 according to one embodiment of the invention. In step 601, video data is received by ~~an~~ a STT 200. If the received video data is in an analog format (e.g., received via an analog video channel), then the video data is digitized by the STT 200. Then in step 602, the video data is compressed in a manner that is responsive to the availability of STT 200 computing resources and/or to one or more characteristics of the received video stream.